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4 April 1960

MEMORATION FOR THE ACTING DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Desirability of an Informal Discussion in Tomorrow's USIS Meeting Respecting the WSEG Study on a Nev Method of Soviet Employment of ICIMs

- 1. This memorandum contains a recommendation in paragraph 5.
- 2. You are, I believe, familiar with the recent WEEG stally on ICHM "reprogramming." This, as you will recall, is a technique whereby the HEER could reduce its theoretical requirements for ICHMs to attack soft targets such as air bases.
- 3. Partly as a result of the WHEC study, we have included in the Terms of Reference of the forthcoming NIK 11-8-60 a resonalysis of Seviet ballistic missile requirements. In the resonalysis, which is to be done by CLA in consultation with the UKIB representatives, we will examine the effect of "reprogramming" as well as other factors. For this purpose, we have accepted WSEG's informal offer to lead us a few days of analytical assistance and some time on their computer.

- 4. The Terms of Reference for HTE 11-8 were approved by the USID representatives on 30 March. At this meeting we did not bring up for discussion the WSEO study feeling that USIB principals should be sounded out as to (1) their knowledge of the study, and (2) their sentiments with respect to using the WSEO methodology (or variants thereon) in the 11-3 paper. By tomorrow all of the intelligence chiefs who have the biggest stake in 11-8 (State, Army, Navy, Air Force, and Joint Staff) will know of the study in question.
- 5. Recommendation: That, perhaps in executive session, you raise the desirability of using aspects of the W386 methodology in the 11-8 paper. General Barnes and Howie Stoertz will be present to fill the Board members in.

SMERMAN KENT Assistant Director National Estimates

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